

THE DAY BOOK

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A LEAP YEAR TIP—HOW QUEENS PROPOSE

Of the famous women of history who have proposed marriage, few have taken advantage of the leap year privilege of womankind. Although tradition credits several notable women with tales of how they proposed marriage to men who in some cases rejected and in others accepted them, the more gallant facts of history give credit only to royalty for the exercise of the prerogative. Among the queens who proposed were:

Marie Therese, empress of Austria and queen of Hungary, was sole heiress to the Austrian dominions when she met the Archduke Francis Joseph of Lorraine in 1735. With the imperiousness that characterized her, she chose Francis for her husband and ordered the ministers of her father, Charles VI, to notify him of the honor.

Francis was, fortunately for her, enamored for her wonderful beauty. He accepted formally, but their marriage proved remarkably happy for a royal one.



Queen Victoria. Queen Wilhelmina.
Pictures of Queen Wilhelmina and
Queen Victoria taken about the
time they proposed

Marie Therese made Francis her coregent in 1740 and emperor in 1750.

Elizabeth of Russia, daughter of Peter the Great, dispossessed of her rights by the Regent An-